

Improve Medication Management with Electronic Health Records

This checklist can help you improve medication adherence by optimizing your Electronic Health Record (EHR) system to better manage your patient's medication regimen.

RECORD

- Record all new medications prescribed during the visit.

PRESCRIBE

- To facilitate electronic prescribing, record the patient's preferred pharmacy on the "additional info" screen.
- Improve your patient's adherence by prescribing 90-day supplies of medication when appropriate.
- Create order sets for common diagnoses, particularly hypertension, high cholesterol and diabetes, and list the most effective generic medications as the first-line treatment option.
- To foster adherence and monitor patients on certain medications, run a registry report that identifies patients who require follow-up appointments (for example, all patients started on a new anti-hypertensive medication within the past 90-days). Make calls or send letters to patients who need appointments or prescription renewals.

REVIEW AND DOCUMENT

- Document and review all current medications with patients, including those prescribed by other health care providers, and over-the-counter and herbal medications. Determine if medications can be simplified, converted to a less expensive generic or eliminated.
- Use the health records system to generate auto alerts for drug-to-drug and drug-food interactions and contraindications.

EDUCATE

- At the end of each visit, print a patient medication summary sheet. Review this sheet with the patient, using plain, simple language to explain how, when and why to take each drug.
- Print patient educational materials directly from the system that provide tips on achieving medication adherence.

